

Members, Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and

To:

	Government Operations
From:	Senate Robert Wirch, Chairman
Date:	April 27, 1999
Re:	Paper Ballot – Senate Bill 74
	ETURN YOUR BALLOTS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE! YOUR
Motion by nonrefunda dependent	
Signature:	Robert Wirch

State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882 • 608-267-8979
Toll-Free Office Hotline: 1-888-769-4724
Email: Sen.Wirch@legis.state.wi.us • Fax: (608) 267-0984
Home: 3007 Springbrook Road, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53142 • (414) 694-7379



To: Members, Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and Government Operations

From: Senate Robert Wirch, Chairman

Date: April 27, 1999

Re: Paper Ballot – Senate Bill 74

PLEASE RETURN YOUR BALLOTS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE! YOUR COOPERATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED

Motion by Senator Wirch for passage of **Senate Bill 74**, relating to creating a nonrefundable individual income tax credit for certain expenses related to child or dependent care.



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To:

Motion by Senator Wirch for passage of **Senate Bill 74**, relating to creating a nonrefundable individual income tax credit for certain expenses related to child or dependent care.

Aye	No	
Signature:		

Printed on Recycled Paper



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Aye

Signature:

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SENATE HEARING SLIP (Please Print Plainly)	SENATE HEARING SLIP (Please Print Plainly)	SENATE HEARIN (Please Print Plain
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Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:	Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:	Speaking for information only; Neither for nor agains
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Senate Sergeant-At-Arms State Capitol - B35 South

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Senate Sergeant-At-Arms Room 109-LL One East Main

P.O.Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707–7882



State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

125 SOUTH WEBSTER STREET ● P.O.BOX 8933 ● MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8933 ● 608-266-6466 ● FAX 608-266-5718 ● http://www.dor.state.wi.us

Tommy G. Thompson Governor

Cate Zeuske Secretary of Revenue

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 74 TO SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT April 14, 1999

Thank you for the opportunity to present information concerning the creation of a state individual income tax credit for expenses related to child or dependent care.

Federal law provides a credit for child and dependent care expenses for up to \$2400 for one child, and \$4800 for two or more children. Depending on the adjusted gross income, the credit can be as much as 30% of child care expenses. As the AGI increases, the percentage applied declines according to a schedule. For AGI above \$28,000, the credit is 20% of eligible expenses.

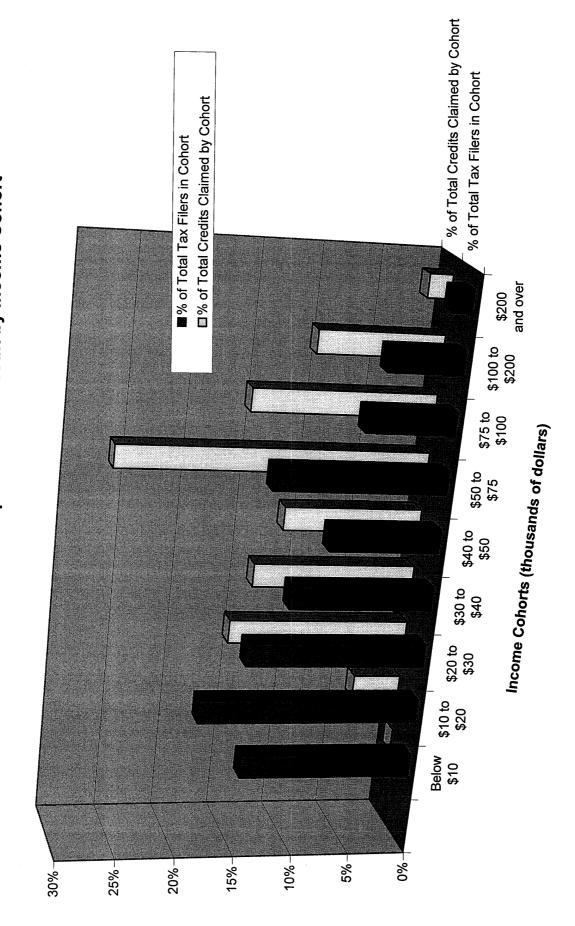
The maximum federal credit is \$720 for one dependent and \$1440 for two or more dependents. The federal credit may be claimed only if the tax filer and spouse are both working, or if one parent is a full-time student or an individual incapable of caring for himself or herself. In the case of a single parent tax filer, the filer must also be working full time.

The only Wisconsin tax benefit provided for child and dependent care services under current law, is an exclusion from gross income of the amount of employer sponsored child care or dependent care that does not exceed \$5000.

Adoption of SB 74, which would create a nonrefundable credit for child and dependent care expenses equal to 50% of the federal credit, would offset a portion of a taxpayer's costs of earning income. For many tax filers, child care and dependent care is a significant expense they face in earning wages.

The committee should be aware however, that many costs of earning income are currently not deductible. These would include costs of commuting to and from work or meals during the workday. Allowing a credit only for certain expenses incurred by just one segment of the workforce would raise questions of tax fairness. A new credit would not be in line with the objective of tax simplification that is one of the primary goals of the Governor's tax reform proposal.

4/13/99



Source: Derived from U.S. Congress Joint Committee on Taxation, "Estimates of Federal Tax Expenditures for Fiscal Years 1999-2003," U.S. Government Printing Office, December 14, 1998.